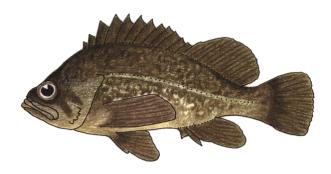
Kelp Rockfish, *Sebastes atrovirens* 1993-1999 Commercial Catch by Ports & Blocks



Marine Fishery Profiles

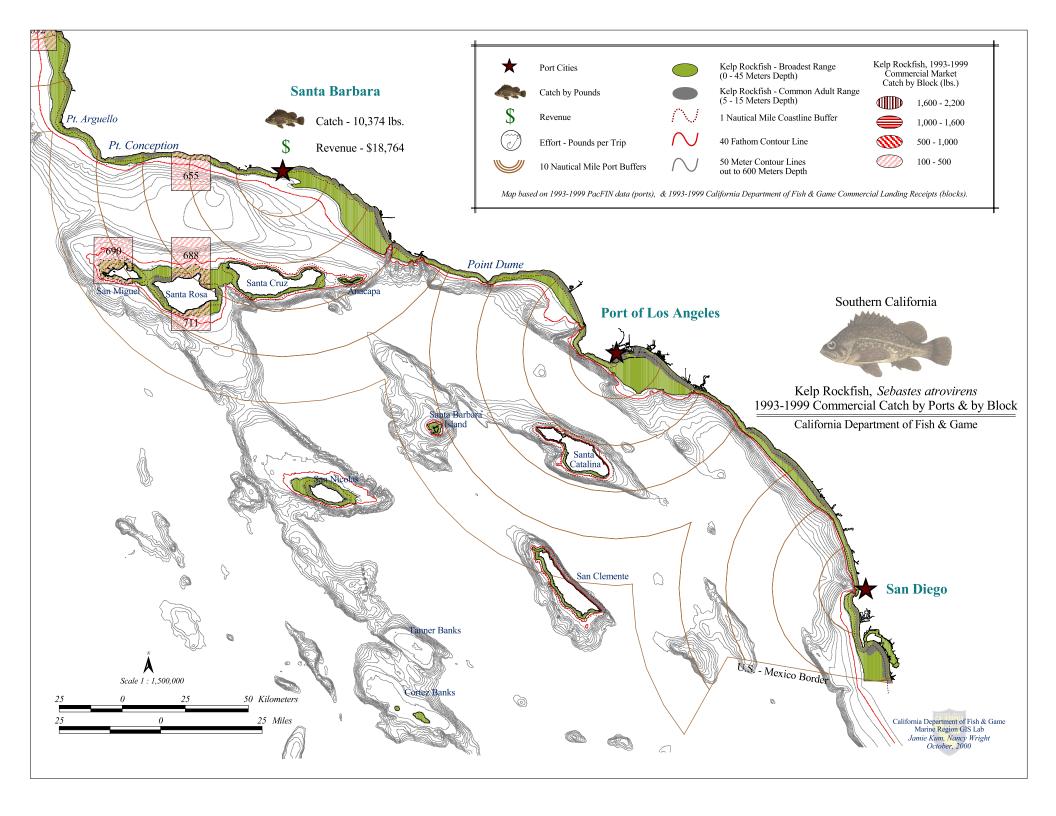
Volume 1:Nearshore

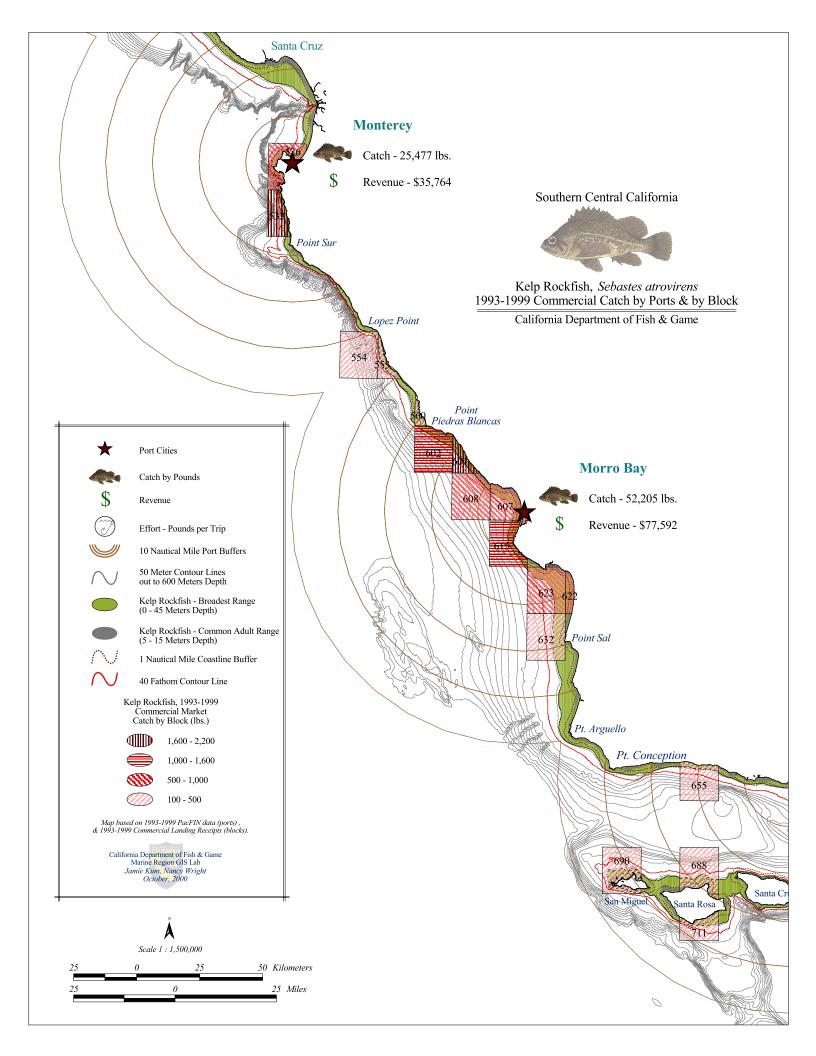
Marine Region GIS Lab

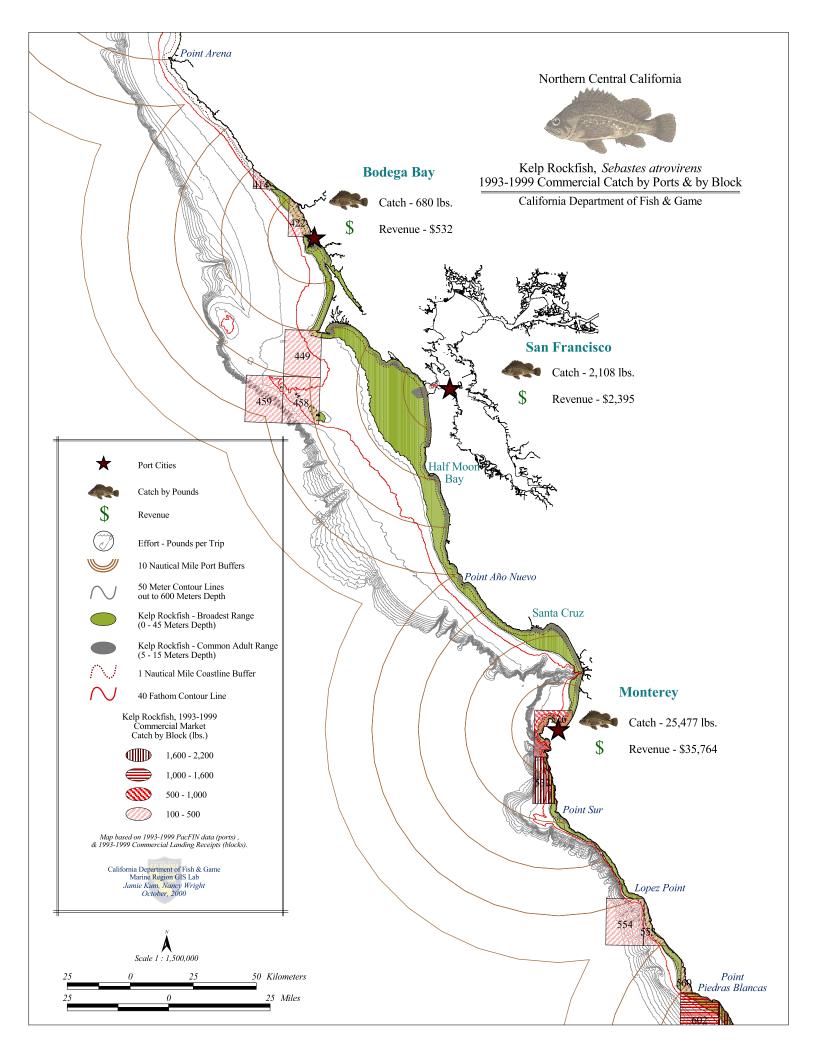
Nancy Wright Eric Knaggs
Jamie Kum Bob Leos
Chad King Colleena Perez



December 2000







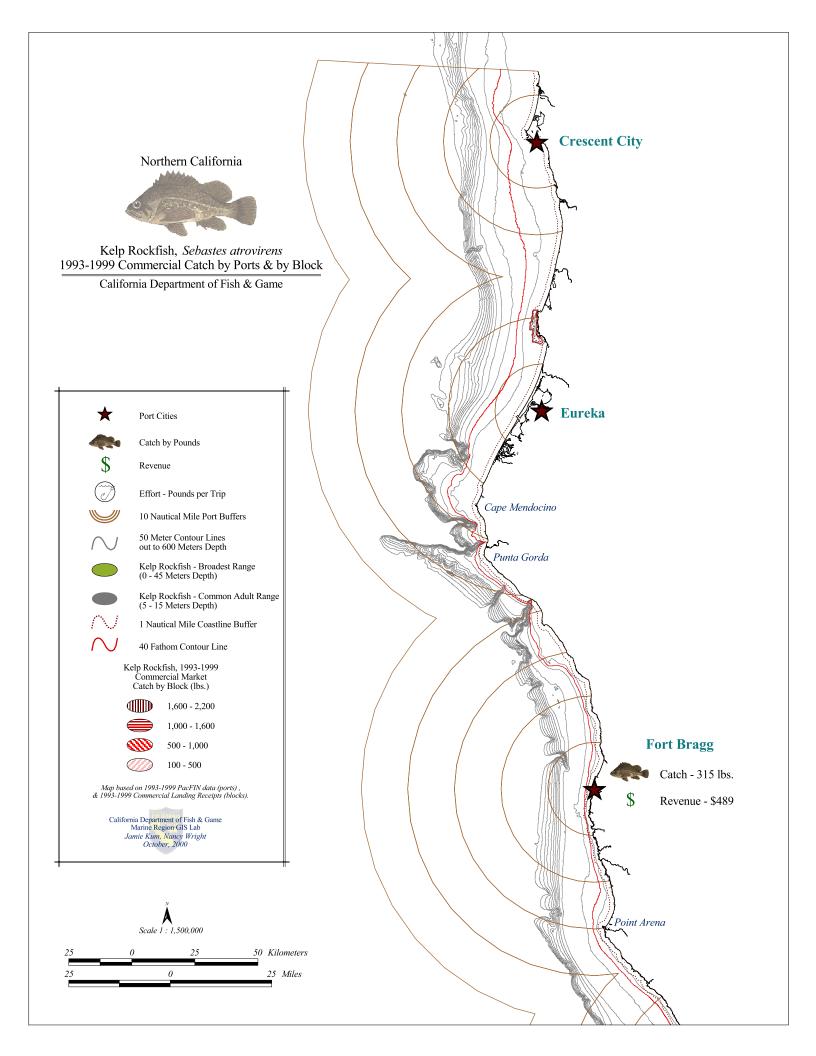


Figure 1. (refer to table 1) CDFG Commercial Receipts Data (1993 - 1999) Total Pounds of Kelp Rockfish Caught and Average Price per Pound by Month

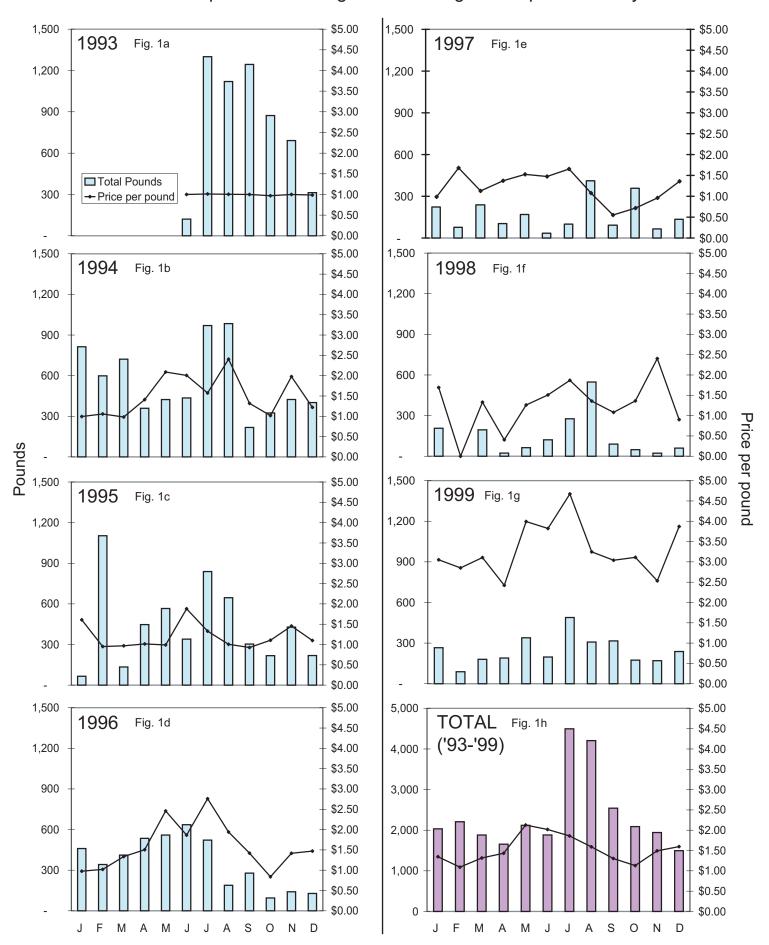


Table 1. (refer to fig. 1) CDFG Commercial Receipts Data (1993 - 1999) Total Pounds of Kelp Rockfish Caught and Average Price per Pound by Month

1993Table 1a

| Month | Total Pounds | Price per Pound |
|-------|--------------|-----------------|
| Jan | no data | no data |
| Feb | no data | no data |
| Mar | no data | no data |
| Apr | no data | no data |
| May | no data | no data |
| Jun | 121 | \$1.00 |
| Jul | 1,300 | \$1.01 |
| Aug | 1,120 | \$1.00 |
| Sep | 1,244 | \$1.00 |
| Oct | 873 | \$0.97 |
| Nov | 692 | \$1.00 |
| Dec | 313 | \$0.99 |
| Total | 5,663 | \$1.00 |

1997 Table 1e

| Month | Total Pounds | Price per Pound |
|-------|--------------|-----------------|
| Jan | 223 | \$0.98 |
| Feb | 77 | \$1.68 |
| Mar | 239 | \$1.12 |
| Apr | 103 | \$1.37 |
| May | 169 | \$1.52 |
| Jun | 33 | \$1.47 |
| Jul | 100 | \$1.65 |
| Aug | 411 | \$1.08 |
| Sep | 94 | \$0.55 |
| Oct | 357 | \$0.72 |
| Nov | 67 | \$0.96 |
| Dec | 137 | \$1.36 |
| Total | 2,009 | \$1.11 |

1994 Table 1b

| Month | Total Pounds | Price per Pound |
|-------|--------------|-----------------|
| Jan | 813 | \$0.99 |
| Feb | 599 | \$1.06 |
| Mar | 722 | \$0.98 |
| Apr | 359 | \$1.41 |
| May | 424 | \$2.09 |
| Jun | 436 | \$2.01 |
| Jul | 970 | \$1.57 |
| Aug | 985 | \$2.41 |
| Sep | 218 | \$1.32 |
| Oct | 324 | \$1.02 |
| Nov | 424 | \$1.98 |
| Dec | 402 | \$1.22 |
| Total | 6,673 | \$1.54 |

1998 Table 1f

| Month | Total Pounds | Price per Pound |
|-------|--------------|-----------------|
| Jan | 207 | \$1.69 |
| Feb | no data | no data |
| Mar | 195 | \$1.33 |
| Apr | 23 | \$0.40 |
| May | 63 | \$1.26 |
| Jun | 121 | \$1.51 |
| Jul | 277 | \$1.87 |
| Aug | 548 | \$1.36 |
| Sep | 89 | \$1.08 |
| Oct | 48 | \$1.36 |
| Nov | 22 | \$2.40 |
| Dec | 60 | \$0.90 |
| Total | 1,653 | \$1.46 |
| | | |

1995 Table 1c

| Month | Total Pounds | Price per Pound |
|-------|--------------|-----------------|
| Jan | 66 | \$1.61 |
| Feb | 1,103 | \$0.95 |
| Mar | 134 | \$0.97 |
| Apr | 447 | \$1.01 |
| May | 566 | \$0.99 |
| Jun | 340 | \$1.88 |
| Jul | 839 | \$1.33 |
| Aug | 646 | \$1.00 |
| Sep | 303 | \$0.93 |
| Oct | 218 | \$1.11 |
| Nov | 429 | \$1.45 |
| Dec | 219 | \$1.10 |
| Total | 5,307 | \$1.15 |

1999 Table 1g

| Month | Total Pounds | Price per Pound |
|-------|--------------|-----------------|
| Jan | 266 | \$3.05 |
| Feb | 88 | \$2.85 |
| Mar | 180 | \$3.11 |
| Apr | 190 | \$2.42 |
| May | 339 | \$3.99 |
| Jun | 197 | \$3.82 |
| Jul | 489 | \$4.67 |
| Aug | 308 | \$3.25 |
| Sep | 316 | \$3.04 |
| Oct | 174 | \$3.11 |
| Nov | 170 | \$2.53 |
| Dec | 238 | \$3.87 |
| Total | 2,956 | \$3.49 |

1996Table 1d

| Month | Total Pounds | Price per Pound |
|-------|--------------|-----------------|
| Jan | 460 | \$0.98 |
| Feb | 342 | \$1.02 |
| Mar | 412 | \$1.34 |
| Apr | 535 | \$1.50 |
| May | 560 | \$2.46 |
| Jun | 636 | \$1.86 |
| Jul | 522 | \$2.76 |
| Aug | 189 | \$1.94 |
| Sep | 279 | \$1.42 |
| Oct | 95 | \$0.84 |
| Nov | 141 | \$1.42 |
| Dec | 128 | \$1.47 |
| Total | 4,297 | \$1.72 |

TOTAL '93 - '99 Table 1h

| Month | Total Pounds | Price per Pound |
|-------|--------------|-----------------|
| Jan | 2,034 | \$1.35 |
| Feb | 2,209 | \$1.09 |
| Mar | 1,882 | \$1.32 |
| Apr | 1,656 | \$1.43 |
| May | 2,120 | \$2.13 |
| Jun | 1,884 | \$2.02 |
| Jul | 4,497 | \$1.86 |
| Aug | 4,206 | \$1.59 |
| Sep | 2,542 | \$1.30 |
| Oct | 2,089 | \$1.13 |
| Nov | 1,943 | \$1.49 |
| Dec | 1,495 | \$1.60 |
| Total | 28,558 | \$1.55 |

Figure 2. (refer to table 2) Pacific Fisheries Information Network Data (1993 - 1999) Total Pounds of Kelp Rockfish Caught and Average Price per Pound by Month

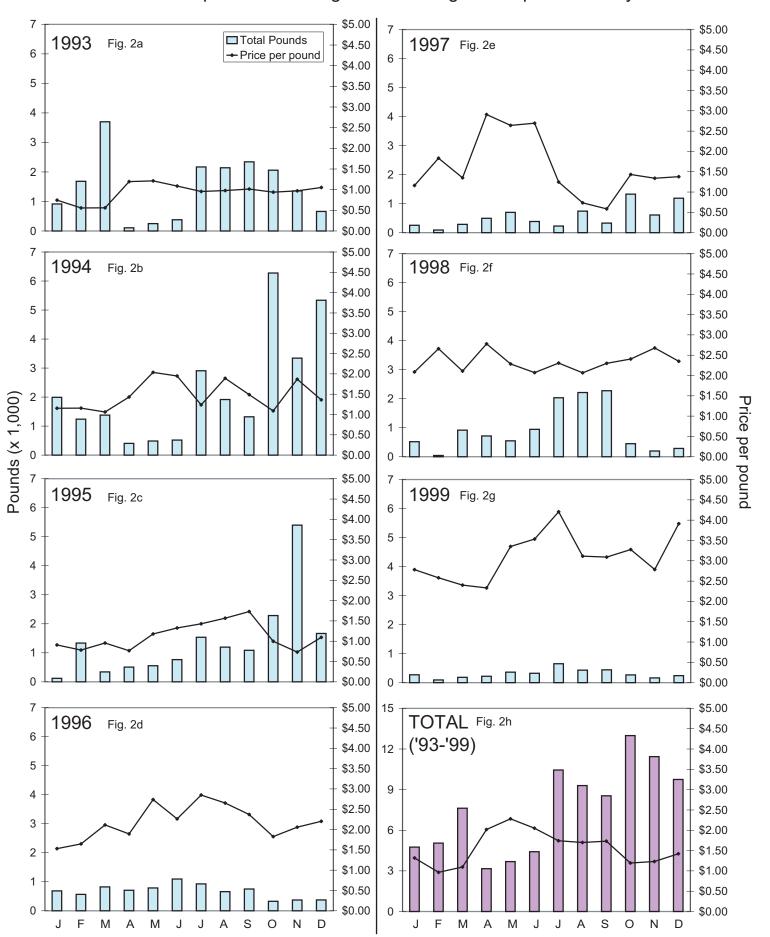


Table 2. (refer to fig. 2) Pacific Coast Fisheries Information Network Data (1993 - 1999) Total Pounds of Kelp Rockfish Caught and Average Price per Pound by Month

1993 Table 2a

| Month | Total Pounds | Price per Pound |
|-------|--------------|-----------------|
| Jan | 915 | \$0.75 |
| Feb | 1,682 | \$0.56 |
| Mar | 3,699 | \$0.56 |
| Apr | 108 | \$1.19 |
| May | 249 | \$1.21 |
| Jun | 380 | \$1.09 |
| Jul | 2,169 | \$0.96 |
| Aug | 2,141 | \$0.98 |
| Sep | 2,342 | \$1.01 |
| Oct | 2,060 | \$0.94 |
| Nov | 1,358 | \$0.97 |
| Dec | 661 | \$1.05 |
| Total | 17,764 | \$0.85 |

1997 Table 2e

| Month | Total Pounds | Price per Pound |
|-------|---------------------|-----------------|
| Jan | 253 | \$1.16 |
| Feb | 90 | \$1.83 |
| Mar | 286 | \$1.35 |
| Apr | 495 | \$2.91 |
| May | 699 | \$2.64 |
| Jun | 386 | \$2.69 |
| Jul | 228 | \$1.25 |
| Aug | 743 | \$0.73 |
| Sep | 328 | \$0.59 |
| Oct | 1,326 | \$1.43 |
| Nov | 608 | \$1.34 |
| Dec | 1,187 | \$1.38 |
| Total | 6,629 | \$1.59 |

1994 Table 2b

| Month | Total Pounds | Price per Pound |
|-------|--------------|-----------------|
| Jan | 1,991 | \$1.15 |
| Feb | 1,238 | \$1.16 |
| Mar | 1,379 | \$1.06 |
| Apr | 405 | \$1.43 |
| May | 487 | \$2.04 |
| Jun | 519 | \$1.95 |
| Jul | 2,908 | \$1.24 |
| Aug | 1,916 | \$1.89 |
| Sep | 1,320 | \$1.49 |
| Oct | 6,276 | \$1.09 |
| Nov | 3,342 | \$1.87 |
| Dec | 5,337 | \$1.36 |
| Total | 27,118 | \$1.38 |

1998 Table 2f

| Month | Total Pounds | Price per Pound |
|-------|--------------|-----------------|
| Jan | 518 | \$2.09 |
| Feb | 44 | \$2.66 |
| Mar | 917 | \$2.11 |
| Apr | 717 | \$2.78 |
| May | 548 | \$2.28 |
| Jun | 945 | \$2.07 |
| Jul | 2,032 | \$2.31 |
| Aug | 2,213 | \$2.07 |
| Sep | 2,276 | \$2.30 |
| Oct | 449 | \$2.41 |
| Nov | 198 | \$2.68 |
| Dec | 285 | \$2.35 |
| Total | 11,142 | \$2.25 |

1995 Table 2c

| Month | Total Pounds | Price per Pound |
|-------|--------------|-----------------|
| Jan | 120 | \$0.91 |
| Feb | 1,336 | \$0.78 |
| Mar | 341 | \$0.96 |
| Apr | 508 | \$0.77 |
| May | 555 | \$1.18 |
| Jun | 766 | \$1.33 |
| Jul | 1,535 | \$1.43 |
| Aug | 1,196 | \$1.57 |
| Sep | 1,086 | \$1.73 |
| Oct | 2,284 | \$1.00 |
| Nov | 5,399 | \$0.73 |
| Dec | 1,667 | \$1.09 |
| Total | 16,793 | \$1.04 |

1999 Table 2g

| Month | Total Pounds | Price per Pound |
|-------|---------------------|-----------------|
| Jan | 271 | \$2.78 |
| Feb | 93 | \$2.58 |
| Mar | 182 | \$2.40 |
| Apr | 220 | \$2.33 |
| May | 361 | \$3.35 |
| Jun | 322 | \$3.53 |
| Jul | 651 | \$4.21 |
| Aug | 431 | \$3.11 |
| Sep | 440 | \$3.09 |
| Oct | 267 | \$3.28 |
| Nov | 163 | \$2.79 |
| Dec | 241 | \$3.91 |
| Total | 3,642 | \$3.30 |

1996 Table 2d

| Month | Total Pounds | Price per Pound |
|-------|--------------|-----------------|
| Jan | 687 | \$1.53 |
| Feb | 566 | \$1.65 |
| Mar | 823 | \$2.11 |
| Apr | 707 | \$1.89 |
| May | 788 | \$2.74 |
| Jun | 1,095 | \$2.26 |
| Jul | 926 | \$2.85 |
| Aug | 660 | \$2.65 |
| Sep | 751 | \$2.37 |
| Oct | 327 | \$1.83 |
| Nov | 372 | \$2.06 |
| Dec | 374 | \$2.20 |
| Total | 8,076 | \$2.24 |

TOTAL '93 - '99 Table 2h

| Month | Total Pounds | Price per Pound |
|-------|--------------|-----------------|
| Jan | 4,755 | \$1.32 |
| Feb | 5,049 | \$0.96 |
| Mar | 7,627 | \$1.10 |
| Apr | 3,160 | \$2.02 |
| May | 3,687 | \$2.28 |
| Jun | 4,413 | \$2.05 |
| Jul | 10,449 | \$1.74 |
| Aug | 9,300 | \$1.70 |
| Sep | 8,543 | \$1.73 |
| Oct | 12,989 | \$1.19 |
| Nov | 11,440 | \$1.23 |
| Dec | 9,752 | \$1.42 |
| Total | 91,164 | \$1.49 |

Abbreviated Life History of the Kelp Rockfish (Sebastes atrovirens)

The coloring of kelp rockfish varies in hue from tan to pinkish brown to red, with dark mottling.

Distribution, Stock Structure and Migration

Kelp rockfish live in kelp beds and on rocky reefs, ranging from Timber Cove, northern California to Punta San Pablo, central Baja California. They are however most abundant between northern Baja and central California. This species is known to occur at depths up to 150 ft but are most common between 15 and 50 ft. Kelp rockfish are residential species, making no other migrations except possibly into deeper water during winter storms.

Age and Growth

Kelp rockfish have been aged to a maximum of 20 yr. Based on a calculated age-length relationship, and 8-in. TL kelp rockfish is approximately 3 yr old, an 11.6-in. fish is approximately 6 yr old, and a 13-in. fish is approximately 9 yr old. The largest recorded length for this species is 16.7 inches.

Reproduction, Fecundity and Seasonality

Male and female kelp rockfish reach maturity at 4 and 5 yr of age, respectively. Corresponding total lengths at maturation are 9.9 in. and 9.6 inches. Off central California, spawning takes place between December and June, with peak spawning in May, and fertilized eggs are present between December and January. Females are viviparous and the planktonic larvae are 0.16 to 0.17 in. SL at release, and will settle into the kelp canopy after 1 to 2 months. As juveniles, they will settle out of their pelagic phase and first appear in the kelp beds between April and August. Recruitment to the nearshore area in central California generally occurs during June and July.

Natural Mortality

Estimates of natural mortality are not available for this species.

Diseases

No information is available on diseases in kelp rockfish.

Predator/Prey Relationships Juvenile and adult kelp rockfish are considered Asearcherse with respect to their prey, although adults are also known to ambush their prey. Prominent prey items for adults and juveniles include crustaceans, such as shrimp and amphipods, and small fish, particularly juvenile blue rockfish. The juveniles are prey of birds, pinnipeds, porpoises, lingcod, cabezon, salmon, and other rockfish. Predators of adult kelp

rockfish include sharks, dolphins, and seals.

Competition The kelp rockfish is excluded from bottom areas of kelp beds

by the territorial gopher rockfish.

Critical Habitat Kelp rockfish occur in rocky reef and artificial reef areas, but

most commonly in kelp beds. They spend their days drifting within kelp blades, sometimes upside down or resting on them. They are more active at night, leaving the kelp beds to

search out or chase prey.

Status of Stocks Local abundances have been studied for the kelp rockfish,

however there is no comprehensive stock assessment throughout their range. This species is often taken in sport fisheries, such as spear fishing, but they are also taken in small numbers by commercial hook-and-line and traps. Their restricted habitat and limited movements make them highly exploitable. Therefore, local depressions probably occur in areas where diving, skiff fishing, or commercial fishing is

concentrated.